

**Minutes of the Grinnell City Council Meeting
Monday, July 18, 2005**

The City Council of the City of Grinnell met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Grinnell Community Center, 927 4th Avenue, Grinnell, Iowa, at 7:00 p.m., Monday, July 18, 2005. Mayor Canfield presided.

ROLL CALL: Present: Elliott, White, Worley, Wilson. Absent: McNaul

PERFECTING AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by WHITE, second by WITT, to approve the Agenda and the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Witt, Worley, Wilson, Elliott. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Previous minutes as drafted from the Wednesday, July 6, 2005 Regular Session.
- B. Approval of the Clerk's Report.
- C. Approval of the Treasurer's Report.
- D. Approval of the request by the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce for Ag Appreciation Days on September 8, 2005 including sponsorship of the event, waiver of fees, provide picnic tables and dumpsters, mowing, and barricades.
- E. Approval of the request by the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce for College Welcome on Friday, August 26, 2005 including sponsorship of the event and closure of 4th Avenue from Main to Broad Streets.
- F. Approval of the request by the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce for Grinnell Happy Days on September 3, 2005 including sponsorship of the event, waiver of fees, provide picnic tables, dumpsters and bleachers, and mowing.
- G. Approval of the request by the Grinnell Fire Department and The Galaxy for the use of Central Park on August 10, 2005 from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm for a fun day with expanda foam.

COMMUNICATIONS/MEETING MINUTES:

- A Correspondence received from: Alliant Energy in regard to proposed electric rate increases and Iowa Department of Economic Development in regard to audit requirements for the Community Development Block Grant Program.
- B. Summary of the E-Waste Collection.
- C. Swearing In of Mike Smith, patrol officer with the Grinnell Police Department.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- A. In regard to the proposed contract documents (plans, specifications and form of contract,) and estimated cost for the improvement for the installation of a security fence at the airport.

Mayor Canfield opened the public hearing at 7:05 pm. Mayor Canfield asked if any comments or objections had been filed prior to the meeting. Hage stated there were none. Canfield requested comments and objections from the citizens present. There were none.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WORLEY, to close the public hearing at 7:06 pm. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Worley, Wilson, White, Witt. Motion carried

Elliott explained the project was bid with fence height of ten feet. The bid amount exceeds the budgeted amount for the project by \$11,000.00. After further research, it has been determined that an eight foot tall fence to be adequate to serve the needs of the airport and still deter deer from the runway.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2819: "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT AND ESTIMATE OF COST (GRINNELL MUNICIPAL AIRPORT SECURITY FENCE)."

Worley questioned the cost of engineering for the project. Elliott stated that due to FAA guidelines, engineering is required and the cost cannot be avoided. The cost is eligible, however, for reimbursement from the grant.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, Worley, White, Wilson. Motion carried.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2820: "A RESOLUTION MAKING AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT –(GRINNELL MUNICIPAL AIRPORT SECURITY FENCE)" with the understanding that the city will seek a change order to reduce the height of the fence. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, White, Wilson, Worley. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

A. Report from the Finance Committee.

- Discussion related to the city purchase of Poweshiek Water Association accounts in south Grinnell.

This item is still under review.

- Discussion in regard to the consolidation of the voting precincts.

White explained that the county has proposed a new division and location for the voting precincts. They have requested expanded use of the Community Center and Veteran's Memorial Building, including improvements needed to the doors for handicap accessibility. At this time, the committee is only recommending consent for the use of the buildings. They are not endorsing or denying the county's proposal. Elliott pointed out that Community Center reserve funding could not be used to fund improvements to the Veteran's Building. All of the current doors are compliant with existing regulations; improvements to the doors would be an effort on the city's part to make them more user-friendly.

Moved by WHITE, second by ELLIOTT, to proceed to allow the county to use the Community Center to consolidate the voting precincts. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Elliott, Worley, Witt, Wilson. Motion carried.

- Approve the policy for preparing meeting agendas.

Moved by WHITE, second by ELLIOTT, to approve the policy for preparing meeting agendas. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Elliott, Wilson, Worley, Witt. Motion carried.

- Review of the city audit RFP.

White stated the city will be seeking bids for the FY2005 audit from both private firms and the state. There will be more information on this item at a future meeting.

- Discussion in regard to the city life insurance policy.

White summarized a new policy has been presented by an alternate company for a price less than the current contract. The savings is approximately \$85.00 per month. Changing policies will also provide a new period of open enrollment to allow employees to increase their coverage without proof of insurability.

Moved by WHITE, second by ELLIOTT, to accept the bid from Standard Life for providing the city's life insurance. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Elliott, Witt, Wilson, Worley. Motion carried.

- Review of the requests for assistance from the Campbell Fund.

The requests were approved as presented.

White reviewed inquiries into options for contracting services for management of the pool concession stand, initiating discussion for local option sales tax and storage of the cans at the redemption center.

B. Report from the Planning Committee.

- Discussion in regard to the request from Kum and Go for the modification of the city sign ordinance.

Worley reviewed the request for modification to the sign ordinance submitted by Kum and Go to allow them to place a larger sign at their new location. The committee agreed to review the ordinance as it impacts traffic traveling on the interstate. The committee did not support any changes to the ordinance as it affects other districts in the city.

- Discussion in regard to the proposed voluntary annexations for Highway 146 South.

This process continues with a deadline for completion of September 1, 2005.

- Discussion of the Highway 146 Corridor long range planning.

A meeting has been scheduled for August 2, 2005 at 6:15 pm to continue the discussion of the corridor. The City Manager pointed out that this meeting is in conflict with the National Night Out event and will likely be rescheduled.

- Discuss Zoning Ordinance/Subdivision Regulations update process.

This item will not be completed until the committee review of the corridor is finalized.

- Consider zoning protection for waste water treatment plant and compost site.

The city manager will continue to work with the county and will report on this item again at a later date.

C. Report from the Public Works and Grounds Committee.

- Approval of Pay Request No. 3 in regard to the Central Business District.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WHITE, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2821: "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CONTRACTOR'S PROGRESS PAYMENT NO. 3 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$266,289.25 TO MANATT'S INC. OF BROOKLYN, IOWA FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION PHASE 1." Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, White, Witt, Wilson, Worley. Motion carried.

- Discussion related to the city purchase of Poweshiek Water Association accounts in south Grinnell.

There was no new information to report on this issue.

- Update in regard to the operation of the municipal pool.

Elliott reviewed recent problems with the operation of the municipal pool requiring the closure of the pool for approximately eight days during the current season. A chemical imbalance has affected the clarity of the water and made the use of the pool hazardous to swimmers because of the limited visibility. Recreation staff will continue to work with Water Department staff to manage the chemical composition of the water. The committee requested that staff notify the council by email the status of the pool and in the event of any future closings. Behrens stated that the problem was taken seriously, however it was difficult to determine the cause.

- Update on the proposed storm water utility by the Water Resources Director.

This item was tabled to the session scheduled for Tuesday, July 19, 2005 6:15 pm.

- Discussion in regard to the development of a food compost site.

This item was tabled to the session scheduled for Tuesday, July 19, 2005 6:15 pm.

- Discussion in regard to the Palmer easement for AWOS system and schedule the public hearing in regard to the AWOS Installation for Monday, August 8, 2005 at 6:00 pm receiving bids until Friday, August 5 at 2:00 pm.

Elliott explained that the FAA will no longer fund AWOS projects after August 15, 2005. This deadline is critical as the FAA has awarded funding to Grinnell for the AWOS project in the amount of 95% of the total cost of the project. In order to receive this grant funding, the bid must be awarded by August 15, 2005. This has required the city to enact an accelerated bidding schedule. Further, the AWOS must have a clear zone established to insure it can record accurate measurements of the weather. This requires an easement with the adjacent property owner. The easement must also be signed by August 15, 2005. If the easement is not executed by the time bids are received, the committee recommends the bids not be opened. Behrens feels that

completion of this project will be a great tool for all citizens, not just pilots using the airport.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to schedule the public hearing in regard to the AWOS Installation for Monday, August 8, 2005 at 6:00 pm receiving bids until Friday, August 5, 2005 at 2:00 pm. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, Wilson, Worley, White. Motion carried.

- Discussion in regard to the contract with Veenstra and Kimm for construction observation of Wal-Mart.

Elliott stated that it has been determined that staff will be able to complete the construction observation as opposed to hiring the engineer. Payment made by Wal-Mart for observation will be retained by the city and may be placed in the fund the council deems appropriate. Behrens explained that the city will incur cost to complete the observation.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to terminate the contract with Veenstra and Kimm for construction observation of Wal-Mart. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, Worley, White, Wilson. Motion carried.

- Discuss use of city water tower for cellular antennas.

This item was tabled to the session scheduled for Tuesday, July 19, 2005 6:15 pm.

D. Mayor's Committee Appointment Recommendations:

There were no appointments at this session.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

FINAL READING OF THE ORDINANCES:

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WHITE, to conduct the final reading of Ordinance No. 1253: "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH WATER MAIN TAP-ON FEES FOR THE AREA ON THE EAST SIDE OF IOWA HIGHWAY 146 STARTING AT A POINT SOME 311' SOUTH OF THE SOUTH BLAKELY CIRCLE RIGHT-OF-WAY AND EXTENDING SOUTH TO THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY OF STAGECOACH ROAD; AND ON BOTH SIDES OF IOWA HIGHWAY 146 FROM THE SOUTH STAGECOACH ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY SOUTH TO THE NORTH INTERSTATE 80 RIGHT-OF-WAY." Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, White, Worley, Wilson, Witt. Motion carried.

Moved by WHITE, second by ELLIOTT, to conduct the final reading of Ordinance No. 1254: "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH LIFT STATION TAP-ON FEES FOR THE AREA GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS THE AREA ON BOTH SIDES OF EAST STREET, STARTING AT A POINT SOME 900 FEET MORE OR LESS SOUTH OF THE CENTER LINE OF GARFIELD AVENUE AND EXTENDING SOUTH TO THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF OGAN AVENUE, AND ON THE WEST SIDE OF EAST STREET, FROM THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF OGAN AVENUE SOUTH TO THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF PINDER AVENUE; AND ON BOTH SIDES OF IOWA HIGHWAY 146 FROM THE CENTER LINE OF OGAN AVENUE, SOUTH TO THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF INTERSTATE

80." Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Elliott, Wilson, Witt, Worley. Motion carried.

APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTIONS:

Moved by WORLEY, second by WILSON, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2822: "A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AS SUBMITTED FOR PROPERTY AND REQUEST TAX EXEMPTION FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT ACCORDING TO CHAPTER 404 OF THE STATE CODE (Daniel J. and Myra J. Sicard, 2001 Prairie Street)" Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Worley, Wilson, White, Witt, Elliott. Motion carried.

Moved by WORLEY, second by WILSON, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2823: "A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AS SUBMITTED FOR PROPERTY AND REQUEST TAX EXEMPTION FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT ACCORDING TO CHAPTER 404 OF THE STATE CODE (Daniel Topf and Ann M. Gansemer-Topf, 1500 Michael Avenue.)" Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Worley, Wilson, Elliott, Witt, White. Motion carried.

INQUIRIES: None.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

Behrens stated the construction of the infrastructure under Fourth Avenue has been completed and once testing is finished the paving will begin. Main Street will not be closed any further until paving moves forward on Fourth Avenue. Paving could begin as early as midweek next week. Once the paving is complete, the contractor will begin work on the sidewalks, including sub-drain work and street light work. The 10th Avenue Paving Project should be completed by August 1, 2005. The 8th Avenue Water Main Project continues to proceed and while an accident caused by the contractor digging into a gas main caused some inconvenience, the project should be completed on schedule.

Elliott questioned the water outage on Friday, July 15, 2005. Behrens explained that during the conversion of the old mains to the new mains in the central business district, some additional valves were closed by accident. Research is being completed to identify why and how the valves were shut down to reduce the likelihood of this event happening again in the future.

Behrens recommended that council and citizens visit Arbor Lake to inspect the improvements. The Eagle Scout project has started and access to other areas of Arbor Lake will be available soon.

The State Street Water Main project is completed with the exception of the cleanup work. Lang Creek continues to progress and the airport hanger project has commenced.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WHITE, to adjourn this regular session of the Grinnell City Council at 8:05 pm. Vote: (5) ayes, motion carried.

ATTEST:

Gordon Canfield, Mayor

Cassandra R. Hage, City Clerk